AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of~~ A method of processing data packets, comprising:

receiving a plurality of the data packets at a selected node;

extracting only pertinent information from the data packets while ignoring non-

5   pertinent information from the data packets, the pertinent information being pertinent to said

selected node;

generating a plurality of response data packets based on the pertinent information,

wherein said extracting and generating steps are performed without use of a microprocessor;

and

10   transmitting a signal indicating that the response data packets should be sent.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The system of claim 15,~~ A data packet communication system, comprising:

a peripheral device;

a filter device connected to said peripheral device, said filter device being configured

5   to receive a plurality of data packets and identify only pertinent information in said data

packets while ignoring non-pertinent information from said data packets, said pertinent

information being pertinent to said peripheral device;

a packet generator connected to said peripheral device and said filter device, said

packet generator being configured to generate a plurality of response data packets based on

10   said pertinent information,

wherein said packet generator is configured to transmit said response data packets; and

wherein said filter device is configured to transmit a signal indicating that said

response data packets should be generated.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein said packet generator is configured to

transmit said response data packets to a packetized data network.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising a protocol state machine configured for receiving the signal from said filter device and issuing a request to said packet generator to transmit said response data packets.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) ~~The device of claim 21,~~ A data packet communication device, comprising:

a filter device configured to receive a plurality of data packets and identify only pertinent information in said data packets while ignoring non-pertinent information from said

5   data packets; and

a packet generator configured to generate a plurality of response data packets based on said pertinent information,

wherein said filter device is configured to transmit a signal indicating that said response data packets should be generated.

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27. (Previously presented) The device of claim 26, further comprising a protocol state

machine configured for receiving the signal from said filter device and issuing a request to

said packet generator to transmit said response data packets.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)